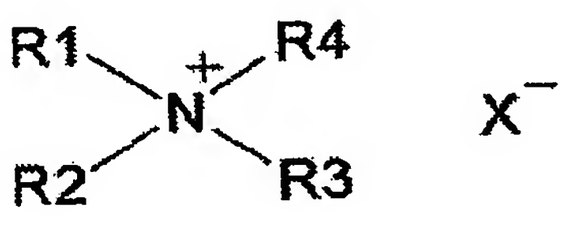
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

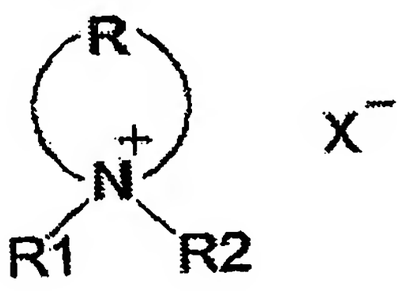
1. (Original) A nonaqueous electrolyte which comprises an organic solvent and a lithium salt dissolved therein, characterized by containing at least one quaternary ammonium salt in an amount of 0.06 mol/L or larger and 0.5 mol/L or smaller.

2. (Original) The nonaqueous electrolyte of claim 1, characterized in that the quaternary ammonium salt has a structure represented by any of (chemical formula 1), (chemical formula 2), and (chemical formula 3):



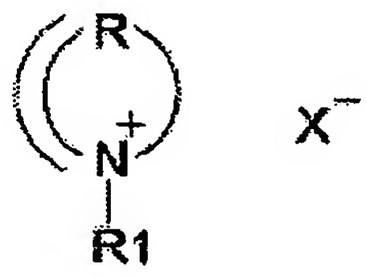
(chemical formula 1)

(wherein R1, R2, R3, and R4 each are either an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or an alkyl group in which at least part of the hydrogen atoms ~~have~~ each has been replaced by a fluorine atom; and X^- is a fluorine-containing anion).



(chemical formula 2)

(wherein R is a divalent organic linking group having a main chain which has 4-5 atoms and is constituted of at least one member selected from carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, and phosphorus; R1 and R2 each are either an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or an alkyl group in which at least part of the hydrogen atoms ~~have~~ each has been replaced by a fluorine atom; and X^- is a fluorine-containing anion).



(chemical formula 3)

(wherein R is an organic linking group or an organic linking group forming an aromatic ring, the organic linking groups each having a main chain which has 4-5 atoms and is constituted of at least one member selected from carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, and phosphorus and having one single-bond end and one double-bond end; R1 is an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms or an alkyl group in which at least part of the hydrogen atoms ~~have~~ each has been replaced by a fluorine atom; and X^- is a fluorine-containing anion).

3. (Currently Amended) The nonaqueous electrolyte of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized by containing one or more organic solvents selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, γ-butyrolactone, and γ-valerolactone.

4. (Currently Amended) The nonaqueous electrolyte of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the anion species contained in the nonaqueous electrolyte is one or more members selected from the group consisting of BF_4^-, PF_6^-, $CF_3SO_3^-$, $N(CF_3SO_2)_2^-$, $N(C_2F_5SO_2)_2^-$, $N(CF_3SO_2)(C_4F_9SO_2)^-$, $C(CF_3SO_2)_3^-$, and $C(C_2F_5SO_2)_3^-$.

5. (Currently Amended) A nonaqueous-electrolyte battery which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a nonaqueous electrolyte, the battery having been fabricated using the nonaqueous electrolyte of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1.

6. (Original) The nonaqueous-electrolyte battery of claim 5, characterized in that the negative electrode employs a graphite.

7. (Currently Amended) The nonaqueous-electrolyte battery of claim 5 ~~or 6~~, characterized by having a sheath comprising a metal/resin composite material.

8. (New) A nonaqueous-electrolyte battery which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a nonaqueous electrolyte, the battery having been fabricated using the nonaqueous electrolyte of claim 2.

9. (New) A nonaqueous-electrolyte battery which comprises a positive electrode, a negative

electrode, and a nonaqueous electrolyte, the battery having been fabricated using the nonaqueous electrolyte of claim 3.

10. (New) A nonaqueous-electrolyte battery which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a nonaqueous electrolyte, the battery having been fabricated using the nonaqueous electrolyte of claim 4.